



CATHOLIC CHURCH of St Ignatius

Nothingness Redeemed

A God-encounter on a bus enabled a retired Indian grandmother, who now spends her time with her grandchildren, reading in the park and visiting the sick in the hospital, to share her faith journey...

"I am not an educated person. I only studied up to Tamil school primary six. But Jesus helped me. I never studied English before, but now I can speak, and read the Bible, and understand it!

I was born a Catholic. When I was seven years old, I became an orphan. My mother died on Christmas Eve and was buried on Christmas Day. I lost contact with my siblings. Sometimes I ask God why he gave me so much suffering, especially for a seven-year old girl at that time.

At the orphanage I was always tightly controlled. Only when I was married did I have my freedom. I was very busy as a cleaner, raising my family. As an orphan, I didn't know how to raise a family. But I told Jesus, I depend on you. Now my boy is working in Cyberjaya in IT, and my daughter is a staff nurse. I may have nothing, but now they are successful.

In November 1993, I listened to RTM on the radio. Someone described how they were looking for their orphaned siblings, and I thought, hey, that sounds like my younger sister Theresa. On

Christmas Day 1993, all six of us brothers and sisters met up for the first time, after over 30 years. It was a grand day, a very happy day!

I don't know la, why all this happened, why all the suffering, joys, and changes. Even though I am nothing, I had nothing, Jesus still saved me. No one else can. I tell my son, don't cling to me - I will kick you away! But Jesus can save you, if you listen to him. Because of Jesus, I can walk better than 12 years ago; I am happily living my life with what he gave me!"

Jesus works and walks with us every day. Who is Jesus for you?

Scholastic Michael Phung, SJ

God Will Provide

+ What does life mean? Why is life so hard, so complicated? Why does it seem that some get what they want while the rest struggle through life? We have so many questions to which we can't find the answers. The answer may be right in front of us, but we are unable to understand it.

Jesus says "not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. Surely life means more than food, and the body more than clothing!" This clearly tells us our lives are not created for material things. It is created for God, for love, for giving. Today, many are trying to compete with one another about who has the better life, but Jesus is telling us to focus on God.

This leads Jesus to the point that God will provide everything. Jesus tells us, "Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them."



Sunday 26 February 2017

Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 49:14-15

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34

Monday 27 February

Liturgy of the day

Tuesday 28 February

Liturgy of the day

Wednesday 1 March

ASH Wednesday (Fast and abstinence)

Thursday 2 March

Liturgy of the day

Friday 3 March

Liturgy of the day

Saturday 4 March

Liturgy of the day

Sunday 5 February

First Sunday of Lent

God will provide for us, He has been doing it from the beginning of time. But there is a catch, He only provides what we need and not what we want (there is a big difference). Even things that happen in our lives, good or bad, are meant to help us to grow in faith, understanding, and love.

Life is a mystery. No one can fully understand or explain what life means. But one thing is certain, each one of us is created uniquely for a unique purpose. What is important is to "Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own".

So as we wake up every morning, let's remind ourselves that our life is for God. That we are meant to do God's will, just as Jesus did. That God will provide for all of us. All we need to do is to trust in Him.

Gerard Robert

Parish Priest	Fr Leslie Raj, SJ
Assistant Parish Priests	Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja, SJ Fr Matthew Tan, SJ
Parish Administrator	Angela Kurnadi
Parish Accountant	Joyce Setiawan
Catechetical Director	Jeremy Aloysius
Youth Coordinators	Gerard Robert
Sacristan	Robert Ong
Operations Manager	David Saw
Facilities Manager	Steven Leong
Communications Manager	Therese Gian

PARISH NEWS

There will be **SECOND COLLECTION** for the poor next week.

FIRST FRIDAY – SACRED HEART OF JESUS MASS

Friday, 3 March, 8:00pm. Please note that there will be NO 6.00pm Mass. Come with family and friends to renew your consecration to the Heart of Jesus. All are welcome.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

Wednesday, 1 March, 7.00am, 6.00pm and 8.00pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent
Morning session after 7.00am Mass
Evening session at 5.40pm, followed by Mass
Evening session at 7.40pm for first Friday of the month on 3 March and 2 April

LENTEN REFLECTIONS BOOKLET

The Office for the New Evangelisation has produced a booklet of reflections for the season of Lent in English, Mandarin and Tamil. The theme is "The Inclusive Community". Please take a copy home. Online copy at: <http://www.one.org.sg/resources-for-parishes/>

INFANT BAPTISMS on Sunday, 12 March at 3.00pm.

Parents and godparents are required to attend briefing on Sunday 5 March, 3.00pm at La Storta Room. Registration forms at church office or website. Please choose a saint's name for your child's baptism. Contact Michelle (9765 5065) & Lin Wein Khoo or Michelle (9633 8236) & Dennis Ng (9457 7772).

WEEKEND CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Next weekend Saturday 4 March/Sunday 5 March will be the last session for Term 1. Term 2 begins after the school break on the weekend of 25/26 March.

PARENTS PRAYER GROUP

While the children are in class, join the Parents Prayer Group and support your children, and each other, in prayer. Saturday, 1.30pm and 4.00pm. Sunday, 10.00am. At Room #02-06, Annexe building. For information, contact Donald Poon at 8123 2660 (Sunday), Andi Sumaryo at 9191 3734 (Saturday, 1.30pm) or Aaron Boey at 9618 5337 (Saturday, 4.00pm).

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL COMMUNITY

We are not having our Prayer Meeting this Wednesday, March 1, as it's Ash Wednesday. We will resume on March 8.

CALL FOR GREETERS

The Greeting Ministry is looking for greeters to serve at 8.15am and 10.15am Masses on Sunday. We also need to build a pool of greeters for special Masses, usually on

Saturday afternoons or public holidays. To volunteer, please leave your names and contact numbers at the Help Desk.

SUNDAY CANTEEN (9AM TO 12PM)

Willing hands are needed for Sunday canteen. If you or your ministry is interested in serving this good cause (3-4 times a year), contact Raymond at 9731 8432 or raymond.thng37@gmail.com.

INFORMATION COUNTER

If you are new to this parish or if you need help and information, or if you have left your spectacles, Rosaries, shawls, etc, in Church, please approach volunteers at the Help stand for assistance.

SMU FUND RAISING – PROJECT ILOVE 8

Catholic students from Singapore Management University (SMU) are selling brownies, muffins and The Cocoa Trees goodie bags to raise funds for their Community Service Project, iLove 8. Your support is greatly appreciated.

RIP NEWS – RISEN IN THE LORD

Agnes Grace Minjoot – 92 years old
Date of death: 19 February 2017

Peter Ong Chin Tee – 84 years old

Date of death: 19 February 2017

DVC COMMUNITY

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



DE VITA Christi
The Youth of St Ignatius

Calling youths and young adults of our parish to worship and encounter the Lord as one community in our bi-monthly Community Mass. Friday, 3 March, 8.00pm at the Attic (Level 3, Annex block).
Celebrant: Msgr Ambrose Vaz

Download the new DVC App for updates, weekly reflections or to sign up for camps. Search for "De Vita Christi" on the App Store and Google Play.

NCC NEWS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings start at 8.00pm.

Zone A District 1

Wednesday, 8 March, SH-02-E

Programme: Symbolon episode 9 "Mary and the Saints?"

Zone B District 3

Thursday, 16 March, 01-04

Programme: 1) Gospel sharing – Daily Word of God
2) Lenten Reflections

Zone D District 1

Friday, 10 March, SH-E

Programme: Lenten booklet: Reflection and discussion of 1st week of Lent.

“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” The Girl hardly thought about death, except on the rare occasions when she attended Ash Wednesday mass. She has always been intrigued by the thought of death. Not the dark and morbid thought; just a simple curiosity.

The Girl recalled her first encounter with a body at the wake of her primary school teacher. A teacher that the students loved, as he was always joyful despite the illness he suffered. She was one of the few students who had the courage to go near the coffin, and she could not help but wonder where her teacher was now. One day she was walking home when she saw a tiny squirrel lying motionless in the middle of the road. She quickly dashed across and picked up the squirrel, as a car was approaching fast. Its body was still warm but clearly lifeless. She carefully laid the squirrel under a big tree by the roadside. Over the next few days she walked by the tree and observed it decomposing and disintegrating slowly, becoming one with earth. Perhaps to where her teacher was. Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

Many years have passed. Out there in a foreign land in the quiet dusk, the Girl was lying on the meadow, wrapped in a warm blanket. The air was chill; the smell of fresh grass tickled her nostrils; the crickets chirping softly in

a distance. Her body felt light as she breathed gently. Her senses dulled. She felt the gravity pulling her body; as if her body was sinking slowly. Perhaps that’s how it would feel like when she finally met her Creator face to face. Going home to the one who loved her for what she was. Her eyes grew heavy, and she slowly drifted into sleep. A deep, peaceful slumber.

From birth into life, life into death, death into His arms. Life is indeed fleeting. It is but a journey. A journey filled with mundane and surprises, ups and downs, and unexpected twists and turns. One can easily lose sight of the final destination and be absorbed in transient matters. Until we turn our gaze to the Cross. The Cross that leads us home. The Cross of the suffering, of His saving grace, and of hope. Hope that comes with the Resurrection.

Ash Wednesday, Lent, Passion, Death, and Resurrection. For forty days, we are invited to remember who we are, to ponder in our hearts why we are here and what we are called for. We are reminded to die to ourselves and to the world. Leaving behind, at least for a

while, the comfort of our self-centredness. For we are called to –

Be thirsty, inviting our Lord into our lives to quench our restlessness;

Be adventurous, walking in faith, falling and rising with Him, knowing that He is journeying with us;

Be trusting, allowing Him to touch the depths of our soul;

Be loved, remembering how much we are loved whole-heartedly and unconditionally;

Belong, for we are His, and He is ours.

Let Him pull our heartstrings and draw us closer to Him. He who loves us so dearly, waiting for us at the Cross, and into the Resurrection. For we are called to turn to Him. And we are called to return to His embrace.

ROSINA SIMON



Called at

LENT

JESUIT NEWS

BECOME A JESUIT

If you are considering a vocation as a Jesuit priest or brother, go to www.mas-jesuits.org and www.facebook.com/jesuit.vocations.malaysia.singapore for information. You can also contact Fr Agustinus Tanudjaja SJ or Fr Adrian Danker, SJ at mas-vocations@jesuits.net

THE HOLLOW REED

As an African proverb goes: 'Let my spirit catch up with my body'; in our present daily whirlwind of unceasing activities & challenges, we need to engage the storm with our heart in the eye of the storm. In this weekend retreat in Lent, come and be still. Thus, be renewed by 'what no eye has seen, nor ear heard... what God has prepared for those who love him' (1 Cor. 2:9). Includes input, silent reflection, Spiritual Direction & journaling.

Dates/ Times: Friday, 10 March (8pm) to Sunday, 12 March (3pm) 2017

Facilitator: Sr. Elizabeth Sim, FDCC;

Fee: \$230 (non-AC), \$270 (AC); inclusive of 2 SD sessions

Register: <http://tinyurl.com/hollowreed>; Details: www.kingsmeadcentre.sg

Jesuit Regional Curia, Telephone: 6469 7356

Fr Christopher Soh SJ, Fr James Tan SJ

Kingsmead Hall, Jesuit Community, Tel: 6466 3225

Fr Gerard Keane SJ, Fr Gerald Tseng SJ, Fr Charles Sim SJ, Fr Colin Tan SJ, Msgr Philip Heng SJ,

Fr Adrian Danker SJ, Sch Don Basil Kannangara SJ

Kingsmead Centre, Tel: 6467 6072 Jesuit Mission Office Tel: 6463 6022

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

COUPLE EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

Even happily married couples get depressed, fight, lose jobs, struggle with financial difficulties, go through crises or addiction problems. Learn how to achieve a work-life harmony in traditional and companionate marriages. Come as a family. Child minders will engage your children spiritually.

Introduction: Sunday, 26 March (1-5.30pm) at St Ignatius Hall

Subsequent sessions: 31 March; 7, 21, 28 April; 5, 12, 19 May (7-10.30pm),

20 May (3.30-9.30pm) and 21 May (1-8.30pm)

Contact Victor at 91059921 or Andrea at 9857 9075, email goto_cep@hotmail.com, or visit www.cep-sg.org or [facebook.com/CEP](https://www.facebook.com/CEP). Register at <http://tinyurl.CEPRegForm>

HFF PRE-EVENT: BRIDGING THE GAP THROUGH EDUCATION

The CHARIS Humanitarian Forum & Fair will be back on 10 June 2017. In the meantime, sign up for the HFF Pre-Event: Bridging the Gap Through Education A hands-on workshop for educators, teacher-volunteers, affiliates and mission groups involved in education-related mission work on Sat, 11 Mar 2017 from 9:30 to 12:00pm at CANA, 55 Waterloo Street, Catholic Centre, Level 2, Singapore 187954. Admission is Free. To register email Gabriel Lee at gabriel@charis-singapore.org or call 63374119

Church Office

3rd floor (from King's Road) or behind Kingsmead Hall (Victoria Park Road)

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 6.00pm

Sunday: 6.45am, 8.15am, 10.15am, 12.15pm and 6.00pm

Weekday Masses

Monday – Friday: 7.00am & 6.00pm

Saturday: 7.00am

Confessions

Every Friday & Saturday: 5.40pm

Every Sunday Mass: 20mins before Mass begins

Infant Baptism (each month)

Briefing for parents & godparents (compulsory): 1st Sunday, 3.00pm

Baptism: 2nd Sunday, 3.00pm

sharp. Registration forms

available at front of Church office

Weddings

Couples must make themselves known to the priest at least 6

months before the wedding.

Contact: Robert Ong (8511 4614)

Columbarium Opening Hours

Monday to Sunday:

6.30am – 8.00pm

Public Holiday: Closed

Inigo Bookstore

Open during weekend Masses.

Sick and elderly

Please contact the parish office

if help is needed for parishioners

regardless of which hospital

they are at. You may also contact

priests' residence at 6466 3225

Bereavement

Please contact the parish office

Sacristan, Robert Ong (8511 4614)

for help and advice before

contacting the funeral director.

Entrance via 8 Victoria

Park Road

Kingsmead Hall (Priests' Residence),

St Ignatius Hall, Sacred Heart Hall,

Kingsmead Centre (for Ignatian

Spirituality & Counselling)

WEEKLY

Rosary in Church

Monday to Saturday, after 7am Mass and Monday to Friday 5.15pm to 5.45pm

Intercessory Prayers

Tuesday, 2.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall Adoration Room, Level 2

Christian Meditation

Friday, 2.30pm in St Francis Xavier Prayer Room (Kingsmead)

Gentle Light

Tuesday, 10am – 12noon in St Francis Xavier

Chapel (Kingsmead)

Thursday, 10am – 12noon in Sacred Heart

Canteen (Room SH-A)

Divine Mercy Devotion

Every Wednesday after 6.00pm Mass in the

Main Church.

Catholic content online, login:

www.FORMED.org; parish code: **4904ed**

MONTHLY – in Main Church

Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass

Every 1st Friday, 8pm (No 6pm Mass)

Followed by

Generation CHRIST!

Eucharistic Adoration

Children Eucharistic Adoration

Every 3rd Friday, 7.45pm

Memorial Mass

Every 4th Friday, 8pm (No 6pm Mass)